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13 January 1951

MEMORANDUM: Comments on NIE 10

An estimate of the situation in the Far East as it relates to the security of the United States must give consideration to the following:

1. a. The Communist Chinese Government is an agency through which the Kremlin's immediate objectives are being attained.

b. The objectives of the Communist Chinese Government, which are all consonant with extensions of the immediate objectives of the Kremlin, are considered to be:

(1) To establish and maintain control over the peoples of China.

(2) To strengthen the military position and defend the territory of Communist China.

(3) To make secure the strategic approaches to Communist China and to eliminate in Asia forces which are capable of threatening the Chinese Communist position.

(4) To eliminate US influence in Asia.

(5) To assist in establishing Communist domination over Asia.

2. The general objective of the United States vis-a-vis the USSR has been stated to be:

"To reduce the power and influence of the USSR to limits which no longer constitute a threat to the peace, national independence and stability of the world family of nations."

3. a. The Communist Chinese Government, with USSR assistance, has the capability for achieving its objectives unless strongly and vigorously opposed.

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b. The Communist military forces, in markedly superior strength, are engaged in battle in Korea with US military forces with excellent prospects for achieving their goals.

c. Communist domination of the potential power of Asia, primarily consisting of manpower and raw materials, will be strategically and politically unacceptable to the United States.

4. The forces which oppose the Communist Chinese Government, and which provide serious obstacles to the attainment of Chinese Communist objectives, are:

- a. The United States.
- b. Japan.
- c. The French forces in Indochina.
- d. The Nationalist Chinese Government.

5. a. The strength of United States position in the Far East stems from:

- (1) United States occupation of Japan and Okinawa.
- (2) United States forces in Korea, assisted by token United Nations forces.
- (3) Japanese manpower, with the highest degree of industrial and military "know-how" to be found in Oriental peoples.
- (4) The French forces in Indochina, supported by the US commitment for a military defense assistance program.
- (5) The Nationalist Chinese forces on Taiwan, assisted by a small US commitment for a military defense assistance program.

b. The application of these forces is not a coordinated effort.

Present US actions in the Far East are not contributing significantly to the attainment of the US objective, nor are they frustrating the Chinese Communist

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objectives to an appreciable degree.

6. There appear to be two general courses of action open to the United States, as follows:

a. To neutralize Communist China, or

b. To abandon the US objective in Asia by withdrawal of opposition to the attainment of Chinese Communist objectives.

7. a. A decision to neutralize Communist China, or in other words, to reduce its power and influence to limits which no longer constitute a threat to the peace, national independence and stability of the Asiatic nations, would appear to require a course of action involving the concerted and coordinated efforts of all the forces in the Far East which oppose the attainment of Chinese Communist objectives.

b. A decision to abandon the US objective in Asia would appear to require a course of action involving the eventual withdrawal of all US forces in the Far East.

c. The degree of success which could be achieved in implementing either of these decisions would appear to be related primarily to:

(1) An effective deployment and employment of air power, and

(2) Re-arming Japan.

d. A strong Japan is essential to any effort to neutralize Communist China. A reasonably secure Japan is essential to cover a withdrawal of US forces.

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